

*B2*  
*contd*

21. The method of claim 20, wherein said  $\beta$ -lactam is selected from the group consisting of a penicillin, a cephalosporin and a carbapenem.

22. The method of Claim 21, wherein said  $\beta$ -lactam is penicillin.--

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#### REMARKS

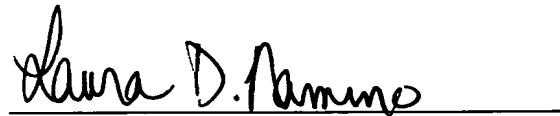
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the foregoing Preliminary Amendment upon initial consideration on the merits of the present application. Applicants submit that the Preliminary Amendment does not introduce new matter.

Applicants' claimed method treats a staphylococcal infection in a mammal while, at the same time, suppresses the formation of antibiotic-resistant staphylococci strains. In particular, by co-administering lysostaphin and a cell-wall active antibiotic according to Applicants' invention, the formation of strains of staphylococci resistant to the combination of lysostaphin and the cell-wall active antibiotic is suppressed. Furthermore, the cell-wall active antibiotic present suppresses the formation of new staphylococci strains that are resistant to lysostaphin.

Accordingly, App[ellants] submit that this application is in condition for examination and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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